

DMSS Land Acknowledgement Statement

The Dalhousie Medical Students' Society recognizes that the land we gather on in New Brunswick and Nova Scotia is the traditional, ancestral, unceded territory of the Mi'kmaq (Meeg-em-ah), Wəlastəkwiyyik (WOOL-ah-sto-key-ick) and Peskotomuhkati (Besk-goo-doo-moo-gah-tee) Peoples. The Mi'kmaq (Meeg-em-ah), Wəlastəkwiyyik (WOOL-ah-sto-key-ick) and Peskotomuhkati (Besk-goo-doo-moo-gah-tee) Peoples signed the "Treaties of Peace and Friendship" with the British in 1725, creating rules surrounding the relationship between these Nations. These treaties were, in fact, not about ceding claims to land, but rather about rights and obligations, providing relationship between the Sovereign Nations. Dalhousie University sits on the unceded, traditional territories of the Mi'kmaq (Meeg-em-ah), Wəlastəkwiyyik (WOOL-ah-sto-key-ick), and Peskotomuhkati (Besk-goo-doo-moo-gah-tee) Peoples. We are all Treaty Peoples.

We recognize that the Maritimes is home to many communities of African descent, in particular African Nova Scotians, whose culture and history have been an important part of the Maritimes for over 400 years. Systemic anti-Black racism and injustices, both historically and presently, affect these communities disproportionately. As a society we must understand this and strive to account for this in our present actions.